Announcements made at Dabolim Airport in Goa

176. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government arc aware of the fact that no announcements arc made at Dabolim Airport in Goa in the State's official regional language by various airlines, including Air India and Indian Airlines, which is contrary to practice at other airports in the country; and

(b) if so, what arc the reasons and what steps arc contemplated to do away with this discrepancy?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) At Goa airport, Indian Airlines staff handle both Indian Airlines and Air India flights. At present, Ground announcements relating to Air India/ Indian Airliens flights arc being done in English, Hindi and Konkani languages.

Lapsed L.I.C. Policies

177. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of LIC policies have lapsed within a short period of execution of such policies;

(b) what are the reasons therefor and what action has been taken in this regard;

(c) what has been the specific role of LIC officials and agents in the procurement of these policies which have lapsed without rendering useful service to the policy holders; and

(d) to what extent LIC's Development Officers or insurance agents get bonus/ incentive/commission on such policies, irrespective of the fact that the policies have lapsed within a short period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (d) Lapsation in life insurance business is a common phenomenon. Corporation's experience of lapsation of life insurance business expressed as percentage of net lapses to mean life insurance business in force has been more or less uniform around 6% over the last five years.

There are a number of reasons for lapsation of policies, the more important of them being—(i) life insurance policies being long-term contracts, the insures may not be able to sustain the continuous payment of policy premium; (ii) more attractive avenues of investment/saving available to the insures may lead to switching over from life insurance policies to other investments; (iii) low literacy level; (iv) low insurance consciousness; and (v) occasional over-selling of policies by agency force.

In order to reduce the incidence of lapsation, the LIC send notices well before the due dates of premium and allow grace periods for payment of premium, beyond the due date. If the premium remains unpaid for three months beyond the due date a Default Notice is sent. A final notice is sent intimating the lapsation of policy and advising the policy holder to revive the same under various Revival Schemes of LIC. The Development Officers and Agents of LIC are regularly given the list of the lapsed policies to enable them to personally meet the policy holders and help them revive the policies. Special Revival Campaigns arc also floated periodically through advertisements in local news papers and display of banners.

Commission to agents is paid on the basis of premium collected. Incentive payments to Developement Officers are based on first year premium income adjusted downward for paid premium *on* policies sold in the earlier year but lapsing within first policy year.

Potential of Textile Industry

178. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that potential of textile industry in the country has not been fully tapped, and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMALNATH): (a) and (b) The Government has been making all efforts to tap the full potential of the textile industry in the country and to improve the quality standards of textiles, so that the twin objectives of making good quality cloth available in adequate quantity and at affordable prices to our people, particularly the poorer sections, and simultaneously to aggressively push our exports so as to increase our share of the global trade in textiles, can be achieved. Towards this end the Government keeps a close watch on the developments in the textile industry and as & when there is any developemnt in any segment of the textile industry requiring attention, appropriate measures are taken through policy interventions.

बैंकों द्वारा प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र को ऋण

179. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज** :

श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा ऋण देने के प्रयोजन से प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र का निर्धारण किया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि इस प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र में कृषि, लघु उद्योग, ग्रामीण कुटीर उद्योग और निर्यात को शामिल किया गया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो देश में 1992-93, 1993-94 और 1994-95 के वित्तीय वर्षो के दौरान कृषि, लघु उद्योग, कुटीर उद्योग और निर्यात क्षेत्र को राष्ट्रीकृत बैंकों द्वारा बैंक ऋण का कितना-कितना प्रतिशत दिया गया है;

(घ) क्या यह प्रतिशतता भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा निर्धारित अनुदेशों के अनुरूप है; और

(ड) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा0 देबी प्रसाद पाल) : (क) और (ख) प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र को ऋण देने के संबंध में भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक के मार्गनिर्देशों के अनुसार, राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों सहित सभी भारतीय बैंकों को अपने निवल बैंक ऋण (एनबीसी) का कम से कम 40 प्रतिशत प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र को देना अपेक्षित है । प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र में शामिल किए गए क्षेत्र नीचे दिए गए है:-

(i) कृषि

(ii) लघु-उद्योग

(iii) लघु, सड़क और जल परिवहन परिचालक

(iv) खुदरा व्यापार

(v) छोटे कारोबार

(vi) व्यावसायिक और स्वनियोजित व्यक्ति

(vii) अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए राज्य के प्रयोजित संगठन

(viii) शिक्षा

(ix) आवास

(x) उपभोक्ता ऋण

निर्यात ऋण भारतीय अनुसूचित वाणिज्यिक बैंकों के लिए प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र का हिस्सा नहीं है ।

(ग) से (ड) राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों की एनबीसी की तुलना में प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र के अग्रिमों की प्रतिशतता मार्च, 1993, 1994 और 1995 के अंत तक क्रमश: 38.36 प्रतिशत, 38.82 प्रतिशत और 37.37 प्रतिशत है जबकि लक्ष्य 40% है ।

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सूचित किया है कि निवल बैंक ऋण की तुलना में प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र को ऋण देने की प्रतिशतता में गिरावट आने के ये कारण हो सकते है: 1998 से बैंकों की लाभप्रदता पर अधिक जोर दिया गया है, आय की पहचान, प्रावधान करने और पूंजी पर्याप्तता के संबंध में भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा निर्धारित किए गए विवेक्सम्मत मानदंड तथा अधिक अंतरण और प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र को ऋण देने में अंतर्ग्रस्त जोखिम लागत । तथापि, भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक को ऋण देने के लिए निर्धारित लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने हेतु वे पूरा प्रयास करें ।

Recommendations of Sodhani Committee

180. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed a commitee headed by Mr. O.P. Sodhani to recommend reforms in the foreign exchange market, if so,